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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/842,001 | 04/26/2001 | Toshimichi Kishimoto | 520.40043X00 | 7058 |

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EXAMINER

SHINGLES, KRISTIE D

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2141

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/842,001 | Applicant(s) KISHIMOTO ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Kristie Shingles | Art Unit 2141 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 April 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. JP 2001-062788.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/01/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-6 are pending.

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. (JP) 2001-062788 filed on 03/07/2001.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 05/01/02 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the Office. An initialed and dated copy of Applicant's IDS form 1449, is attached to the instant Office action.

Abstract

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of legalese usage: "thereof", "therein", and "wherein". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 111, 112, and 407. Corrected drawing sheets, or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: "is" should be "are" (pg.1 line 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Goldszmidt et al (USPN 6,195,680).

a. Per claim 1, Goldszmidt et al teach a storage system, comprising:

- an external storage device, having storage data and storage operating data for operating said storage data therein (Abstract, col.8 line 35-63 and col.9 lines 23-47; multimedia streaming servers function as external storage devices);
- a host computer being connected to said external storage device, on which an application is able to operate (Fig.2a-2c and Fig.3a-3c; client computer is connected to streaming server); and
- a storage operating server, being connected to said external storage device and said host computer, and having a storage operating server program therein, for obtaining said storage operating data from said external storage device, wherein (col.4 lines 27-53; control server acts as storage operating server and obtains storing operating data from streaming server),
- said application operates said storage operating data through said storage data server program (col.3 lines 27-56; applications on client operate and process storage data received from the servers).

b. Claim 4 has limitations similar to those of claim 1 and is therefore rejected under the same basis.

c. Per claims 2 and 5, Goldszmidt et al teach a storage system, as defined in claims 1 and 4, further comprising a switch for shutting off connection between said storage operating server and said external storage device, being provided in an interface for use in storage operation of said external storage device, to which said storage operating server is connected

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(Abstract and col.4 line 55-col.5 line 64; control server includes switching functionality for load-balancing and re-directing among the streaming servers).

d. Per claims 3 and 6, Goldszmidt et al teach a storage system, as defined in claims 1 and 4, wherein said storage operating server includes a WWW server program, so as to make possible operation of the storage operating data from a storage terminal which is connected to said storage operating server (col.12 lines 47-52; server includes Web server logic).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Blumenau et al (USPN 6,438,595) disclose load balancing using directory services in a data processing system.


b. Brandt et al (USPN 6,377,993) disclose an integrated proxy interface for web based data management reports.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristie Shingles whose telephone number is 703-605-4244. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 703-305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

kds


PAUL KANG
Primary Examiner